

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-28 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 13 and 14 are amended and Claims 15-28 are added by the present amendment. Support for amendments of Claims 1, 13 and 14 and the addition of Claims 15-28 can be found, for example, in the specification at page 22. Thus, no new matter is added.

Claims 1, 7-9, 13 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Okada et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,088,125, herein “Okada”); Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Okada in view of Microsoft Corp, Microsoft Computer Dictionary Fifth Edition, herein “Microsoft”; Claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Okada in view of Microsoft in further view of Sorens et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,317,848, herein “Sorens”); Claims 4-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Okada in view of Sorens; Claims 10-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Okada in view of Parry (U.S. Pat. No. 6,666,594); Figure 8 was objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4). The figures and specification, specifically reference numerals 340, S104, 108, and 123 were objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5).

In response to the objections to the drawings, submitted herewith is a Letter Submitting Drawing Sheets along with 1 Replacement Sheets for Figure 8 which now properly labels the “Location Data” as element 340. Further, the specification is amended to correct the noted informalities, making the specification consistent with the drawings, specifically reference numerals 340, S104, 108, and 123.

Initially, Applicants note that each of the independent claims is amended to address the above-noted prior art rejections, those rejection are traversed by the present response.

Specifically, the three existing independent claims, Claims 1, 13 and 14, are amended to include an e-mail creating means that creates an e-mail to report an occurrence of a problem to a selected addressee, the e-mail inserting a problem ID code in the subject of the e-mail. Additionally, three new independent claims, Claims 15, 27 and 28, are added to recite to include a web page creating means that creates a Web page containing detailed information about the problems detected in the image reporting and reproducing process, support can be found at least at page 22, lines 17-23.

With respect to the rejection of the independent claims the outstanding rejection cited Okada as reciting all the elements of the independents claims. However, applicants respectfully submit that the ground for rejection does not meet the limitations of the amended claims for the following reasons.

Okada is directed to a printing result notification system. Okada detects a printing result and based on information stored in a table and sends out the printing result to users associated with that result.¹ However, Okada does not describe sending an email with “the problem ID code in the subject of the e-mail,” as recited in amended Claim 1. Nor does Okada describe or suggest including “a Web page containing detailed information about the problems detected in the image reporting and reproducing process,” as recited in Claim 15.

Further, the further cited prior art to Microsoft and Sorens are similarly deficient.

The Microsoft reference describes combining faxing, scanning, and copying into a single unit; but it does not describe sending an email with “the problem ID code in the subject of the e-mail” or including “a Web page containing detailed information about the problems detected in the image reporting and reproducing process.”

Sorens is directed to a system for tracking printer usage aspects and failures. Sorens gathers data about the printer and after a set period of time or after a trigger event sends the

¹ Okada col 16.

recorded data by email to a number of users. However, Sorens does not describe sending an email with a “problem ID code in the subject of the e-mail” or including “a Web page containing detailed information about the problems detected in the image reporting and reproducing process.”

Applicants note that the present application is based in part on and claims priority to Japanese Priority Document 2002-274706 filed on September 20, 2002. Filed with the present response are priority document 2002-274706 and a certified translation of the document. By virtue of the submission of such priority document and the certified translation thereof, applicants respectfully submit that this document fully supports the claimed subject matter and that thereby applicants are entitled to and have perfected that priority date of September 20, 2002 for the present application.

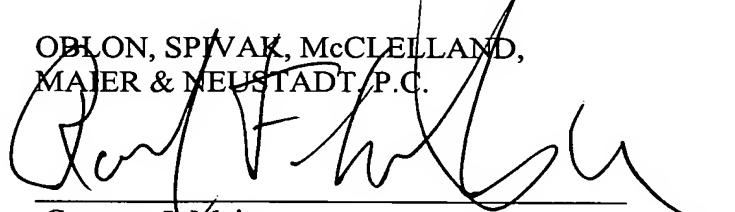
As applicants are entitled to the priority date of September 20, 2002 for the present application, Parry is no longer a valid reference against the pending claims. More particularly, Parry has as an earliest effective filing date April 24, 2003, thus, Parry does not have a valid filing date prior to applicants perfected priority date of September 20, 2002. Thus, Parry is not properly applicable against the pending claims.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 1, 13-15, 27 and 28, and claims depending therefrom patentably define over the cited prior art.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 8. This sheet, which includes Fig. 8, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 8.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet